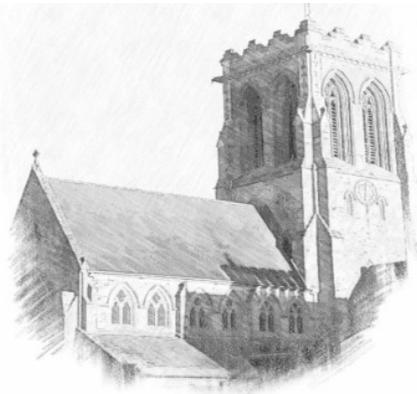


# ***St Michael and All Angels Belmont Abbey***



## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**13 May 2018**

7 Sunday of Easter

### **PARISH PRIEST**

Fr. Nicholas Wetz OSB

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### **Parish Deacon**

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Today is World Communications Day when we are asked to keep those who work in the media in our prayers and there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), which is entirely funded by this collection. The CCN provides communications support for the bishops of England and Wales, both individually and collectively, the Holy See and the Church more widely in promoting the Gospel through the media on a variety of different levels. CCN works with the media (behind the scenes) on a daily basis to ensure the best possible coverage of current issues which have relevance for the Catholic faith. Please help the CCN to promote the Good News through the media, by your prayers and generosity.

The month of May is traditionally known as "*the month of Mary*" and is dedicated to honouring the most holy Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The annual Devotion in honour of Our Lady at Belmont Abbey, takes place this Wednesday at 9 pm.

The summer fete looms ever nearer (June 16) and preparations are well under way but we still need your help! Can you offer your services, help with a stall, or perhaps have spare bottles, unwanted presents or items for one of the many stalls (not jumble please at this time). Contact Fr Nicholas or Kath Parry for more details. Thank you.

*Fr Nicholas*

***Welcome to Belmont Abbey. If you are a visitor here and would like to Gift Aid your offertory collection, please collect an envelope from the Porch. Thank you!***

Last Sunday's	1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	<b>£380.87</b>
	Standing Orders	<b>£581.00</b>
The 1 <sup>st</sup> collection goes towards the maintenance of our Abbey church and parish, diocesan levies and other related costs.		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	<b>£206.93</b>
The 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection is reserved for specific charitable causes or appeals and our own Outreach projects as detailed in the Newsletter. Last week was for <b>Syrian refugees. Thank You</b>		

† † † † †

### Hereford Hospital Chaplaincy

If you know of anyone in hospital who would like a visit from Fr Matthew, please let him know on 01432 265177 / fr.matthew@live.co.uk.

† † † † †

If you missed a parish newsletter, remember that you can go to our website to find out what is going on in the parish. Website address is on the first page.

† † † † †

The winners of the 150 Club Draw in April are:

- 1st Steve Gill
- 2nd Jim Donovan
- 3rd Jeanette Livermore

† † † † †

With sadness we report the death of Lillian Allsopp who died last week. May she rest in peace. Her requiem Mass will be at **12:30 pm** on Tuesday 29 May

† † † † †

The parish library has been re-organised for the use of parishioners. It would be appreciated that books on "long term" loan be returned for the benefit of other parishioners. Many tnx. Eddie Wyman

† † † † †

### Red Boxes

Please hand your red boxes in as soon possible to your promoter or to me, Mandy, at the 8:30 Mass. Thank you.

† † † † †

### Caritas Deanery Meeting

The next meeting of this Deanery group is on Tuesday 15th May at 6 pm in Our Lady's Parish room, Belmont Rd, Hereford, followed by mass at 7 pm This group is attempting to promote and co-ordinate the work done in the Deanery with those in need, in particular work done in local food banks, SVP groups and by parish visi-

tors and Extraordinary ministers etc. It will link in with the Archdiocesan Caritas group and also help to promote the annual "World day of the Poor." All welcome. Fr. Matthew - Our Lady's. (01432 265177.)



Dates for your diary
<b>15 May</b> Tea & Chat Parish Hall 2:30 pm
<b>16 May</b> Torchlight Procession 9:00 pm
<b>18 May</b> Church Cleaning 9:00 am
<b>16 June</b> Garden Fete 2:00 pm



### Lift up your Hearts

A Day of Recollection at Belmont Abbey led by Fr Matthew for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Saturday 2 June 10 am to 4 pm. Ideal day for those who missed the parish day before Easter. See poster for more details.



### The Fete

**We are now looking for bric-a-brac, books, good condition children's toys and only clean and in very good condition clothes.** We can no longer take "rags" as we have no way of disposing of them. We also cannot take electrical goods for the fete, as customers cannot test them in the tent. We also need items that can be used for the **Grand Tombola**, so if you have any gifts you cannot use, do give them to us for the Tombola. As always all **bottles** are gratefully accepted. The bottle stall is one of our best ones but it does take a lot of bottles to stock, so please be generous. If you have **spare plants**, please remember the Plant Stall. We will also need lots and lots of **yummy cakes! Also needed is jewellery and nice smelly things.**

Many thanks for your help!





### Bereavement Support

The Archdiocese will be running a course for those interested in supporting the bereaved. This will be held on Saturday June 30th from 10 am until 4 pm at the Pastoral Resource Centre, Newport Rd. Cardiff. It is aimed at those who are already part of a Bereavement Support Group in their parish, anyone wishing to be part of a group or who would like to start one. If you are interested please speak to Fr Nicholas.



### Prayer in Preparation for Pentecost

O Lord Jesus Christ Who, before ascending into heaven did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul, the work of Your grace and Your love. **Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom** that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, **the Spirit of Understanding**

to enlighten my mind with the light of Your divine truth, **the Spirit of Counsel** that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven, **the Spirit of Fortitude** that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, **the Spirit of Knowledge** that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, **the Spirit of Piety** that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, and **the Spirit of Fear** that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord with the sign of Your true disciples, and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.



### Joint Prayer Group

The first meeting of this group is on Thursday 17 May at 7 pm at St Francis Xavier's and the second meeting will be at Our Lady's Queen of Martyrs on Thursday 7 June. All are welcome.

The format will be singing a couple of praise and worship songs (any musicians are welcome to bring their instruments), asking the Holy Spirit to guide us as we reflect on the gospel of the day followed by intercessory prayer and ending with another song.





## Homily

*"True to your name."*

### Illustration

Ron Williams, a gentle Welshman, remembers playing with his little sister, Christine, and he has a photograph to prove it. But the photograph was all he had, for shortly after it was taken his little sister was taken away and given up for adoption. Sixty-five years were to pass before finally he found her. With the help of the production team of a television programme called Long Lost Family, Ron and Christine, who now lived in New Zealand, were reunited. And the story did not end there. Ron and Christine both carried in their memory a faint echo of other siblings, a brother and a sister. Again with the help of the production team the search was made and the siblings were found, one in New Zealand and one in Australia. This second pair of siblings had endured an even bleaker childhood than the first, suffering great poverty and lack of love or care. They only had each other and that was how they survived.

Now a happy reunion can be told of four children, separated in their earliest years, and in want of that parental love which is the foundation of all human joy. In finding each other and in discovering the powerful bonds

of nature by which they are related, their love for one another is a healing antidote to the loneliness of earlier times. Life for them has finally become what life should be.

### Gospel Teaching

At the beginning of the Church's life Peter stood up before an assembled crowd of a hundred and twenty people, a number symbolic of the whole house of Israel, and by extension of the whole human race. He stood up to address the human family. His first task was to heal and restore the "twelve apostles", those foundation stones of the Church's existence. The Twelve were specially chosen by the Lord to be the foundation of his Church, his family of followers. As parents are to their children, so the apostles are to the rest of Christ's faithful.

This new Israel, this new people of God, is founded on the Twelve, who were the Lord's companions from the beginning right up until the day he was taken from their sight. They had eaten and drunk with him – such powerfully human experiences – after his resurrection from the dead. Now they would be his witnesses to the whole world and to every generation that comes after. The faith that is preached is founded on this rock-solid base of people who were there and who knew him so well.

If we are to preach the love of God in this world, it is as well to have a firm foundation for such a story. The world is not impressed by idle dreams or fantasies, although it, too, likes to indulge in such things. But the triumph of good over evil is an uncertain thing in this world and death itself looks pretty final.

### **Application**

So it was that Jesus, at his last meal with his disciples before his suffering, prayed for them, and so for us, and asked his Father to keep them “true to your name”. For it is this quality and this witness of life that will be the moving factor in causing God’s love to grow in human lives. People who are true to God’s name witness to goodness in a wicked world. They witness to kindness in a cruel world. They witness to hope in a world sunk in despair. Poor Judas, who became disillusioned with Jesus, lived to regret his actions in betraying the Master, but he did not live long enough to be rescued from despair. In collaborating in the death of Jesus he felt that he had burnt all his boats. There was nothing left to live for. But hope springs eternal and the Lord is risen from the dead.

In our world today, in your life now, the Lord offers us his grace, the grace to be true to his name in our own place and in our own circumstances. Our own life is our challenge. We are not going to be removed from the

world, but to be protected from the evil one. Our witness of life is to be in touch with one another, to help restore one another, and to help in gathering into unity the scattered children of God.



As the joyous season of Easter comes to a close, we focus onto Christ’s loving relationship with us.

We see how the early Church decided that the person who was to replace Judas needed to be someone who had known Jesus personally from the very start of his ministry, and had witnessed his suffering, death and resurrection.

We can pray with great joy the Psalm of thanks for all the blessings of God’s love. John’s letter is like a summary of the Good News and the mystery of the Resurrection. We are encouraged to love one another. It is through our loving relationships that we will come to know God more fully. God is love, and God shares the Spirit of love with us when we die to self and give ourselves fully to love.

In John’s Gospel we hear Jesus praying to the Father for his followers. Jesus wants us to share fully in his joy. It is in this spirit of Easter joy that we are sent out into the world to draw all people into that relationship of love of which each and every one is invited to be a part.



<b>Ministers, etc. for next <u>Sunday 20 May 2018</u> Pentecost Year B Cycle</b>			
	08:30:	9:30	11:00
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomers	Annette Mansie	Nickerson Family	Hackman Family
Sacristan			Jeremy Hogan
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Liz Norman	Basil Nickerson	Liz Morawiecki
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Fran Grant		Pat Draper
Bidding Prayers	Mary Hayes		Tony Archer
Offertory	Ramage-H Family		
Extraordinary Ministers	Seamus Hayes & Deacon Eddie		Deacon Eddie & Gabrielle Stanley
<b>Next Sunday - Supporting Catholic Education</b>			

Low Mass in the Extraordinary Rite (Tridentine Mass) is usually celebrated here at Belmont Abbey on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and Sunday afternoons at 4 pm.	CHILDREN'S LITURGY	
	<b>13-May</b>	<b>Pat Wood &amp; Monica Russell</b>
	<b>20-May</b>	<b>Andrew M &amp; Pauline Gill</b>
	<b>27-May</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
	<b>03-Jun</b>	<b>Half Term</b>

Please pray for all who have died: **May they rest in peace.** (W/C 13 May)

**Deaths:** Lillian Allsopp, Gill Wiseman, William Padden and Elaine White

**Anniversaries:** Peggy Hill, Marjory Reynolds, Leslie Twissel, Mary Blackmon, Milborough Plummer, Jeffrey, James Ardoino, Emily Bray, Leslie Norman Jackson, Kenneth Worthington, Simon Cox, Dom Philip Owen osb, Mary Wegg-Prosser, David Bridges, Beatrice Donovan, Elijah Hodges, Daniel Stokes and Gordon Surrell.

**The Sick:** Please pray for: Sally Johns, Neal Harries, Kenny Hanna, Fr Aidan, Rachel Thompson, Phillip Archer, Sonja Hayes, Robin Hayward, Gil Savory, Denise Ellis, Chris & Sue Rogers, Peter Draper, Dominique Wetz, Shirley Brymer, Edward Medicott, Joanne Savory, Dame Catherine, Vincent Hanna and Sadie Bowyer.

<p><b>7th</b></p> <p><b>Sunday</b></p> <p><b>of Easter</b></p>	<p><b>Entrance:</b> O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.</p> <p><b>Acclamation:</b> We proclaim your Death, O Lord...</p> <p><b>Communion:</b> Father, I pray that they may be one as also are one, alleluia.</p>
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<b>Principal Celebrants, Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, etc.</b>			
	08:30:	09:30	11:00:
Celebrant	Fr Nicholas		Fr Nicholas
Welcomer	Hayes Family	Anne Stapleton	Rita Chamberlain & Marnie Archer
Sacristan			Tony Archer
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	Jacqui Ramage-S	Lucy Zammit	Rob Corrigan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	Mary Hayes		Margaret Rose
Bidding Prayer	Ann Jackson		Jacqui Corrigan
Offertory	Hickey Family	Gillick Family	
Extra-Ordinary Minister(s)	Kath Parry & Fran Smallwood		Deacon Eddie & Monica Russell
Mass Intention		<b>Pro Populo</b>	<b>Lillian Allsopp RIP</b>
<b>Second Collection: World Communications Day</b>			
<b>Food Bank Collection: Ray &amp; Margaret Rose</b>			

<b>What's On for the week</b>	
Mon	<b>St Matthias:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Tue	<b>St Pachomius:</b> Mass at 8:00 am
Wed	<b>Easter Feria:</b> Mass at 8 am: Midday Mass in the Oratory:
Thu	<b>Easter Feria:</b> Mass at 8 am
Fri	<b>Easter Feria:</b> Mass at 8 am: Exposition and Midday Mass in the Oratory
Sat	<b>Sts Dunstan, Oswald &amp; Ethelwold:</b> Mass at 8 am: Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10 am